



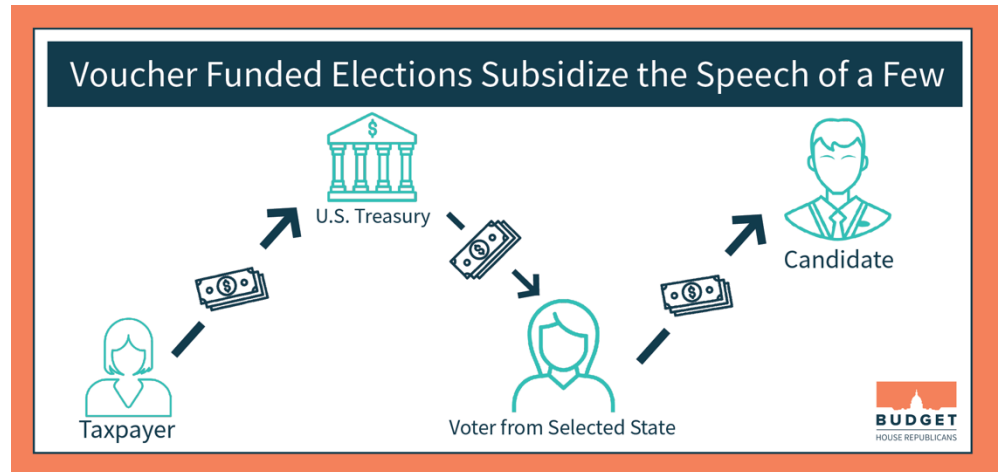
## HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE

# For the People Act - Pt. 2

Earlier this month, Speaker Pelosi announced her intention to schedule H.R. 1, the *For The People Act*, in the House in February. This legislation would be detrimental to our democratic system and should not proceed. This past January, House Budget Republicans released a [Budget Buster](#) covering three of the bill's most burdensome proposals. This week's *Buster* continues to highlight the bill's problems that would hinder our electoral system and cost the country significant amounts of money, adding to our already existing \$22 trillion debt.

**H.R. 1 Would Bust the Federal Budget.** One of the many costly initiatives within the bill is the creation of the "My Voice Voucher Pilot Program," which would instruct the Federal Elections Commission (FEC) to select three states to provide every qualified voter a \$25 voucher, which they would then submit to a candidate of their choosing in increments of \$5 as a campaign contribution. Additionally, H.R. 1 instructs the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish the "Election Security Bug Bounty Program" with the goal of improving cybersecurity systems for federal elections. While official estimates have not been produced for any of the proposals, they clearly would cost the federal government a massive amount per election cycle.

**H.R. 1 is Unworkable.** Like H.R. 1's federally subsidized matching



system for campaign donations (6-1 match rate), discussed in last month's *Buster*, the bill's voucher pilot program would also be a disservice to our democratic system. Distribution of taxpayer dollars to candidates for political office would force Americans to subsidize political agendas with which they may not agree. This would be a serious violation of every Americans' right to free association. With respect to the new election cybersecurity program, the Constitution explicitly states that state and local communities have the responsibility of administering their own elections. Imposing further federal regulations will serve only to increase reliance on bureaucrats in Washington. Only state and local governments know their communities well enough to maintain electoral systems best tailored to their needs. Further, election security would potentially suffer under one centralized system implemented by the federal government. Centralizing election systems in this way would provide hackers just one system to target and access every registered voter and voting system. This is a needless risk that would come at a significant cost to the taxpayer.

**Republican Solutions for State-Run Elections.** It is the right and responsibility of state and local governments to properly budget and spend their funds in order to support their communities' most important needs. Forcing the American people to subsidize campaigns is not the way to enhance our nation's democracy. Republicans support robust participation in the electoral system and respect the important role delegated to state and local governments.